

HOUSE No. 564

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Thomas J. Calter

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a task force on election day registration.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Thomas J. Calter	12th Plymouth
Stephen R. Canessa	12th Bristol
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	1st Plymouth
Stephen L. DiNatale	3rd Worcester
Louis L. Kafka	8th Norfolk
Matthew C. Patrick	3rd Barnstable
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Rosemary Sandlin	3rd Hampden
Cleon H. Turner	1st Barnstable
Christine E. Canavan	10th Plymouth
David P. Linsky	5th Middlesex
Pam Richardson	6th Middlesex
William Lantigua	16th Essex
Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex
Jennifer M. Callahan	18th Worcester
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk
John W. Scibak	2nd Hampshire
David B. Sullivan	6th Bristol

Bruce E. Tarr

First Essex and Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION.

Whereas, the deferred operation for this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to make

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be established an
2 election day registration task force. (a) Said task force shall undertake a study of election day registration.
3 Said study shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of : (1) the state and local costs of
4 implementing said proposal, the costs of increasing access to the Central Registry of Voters, and the
5 availability of federal funding through the Help America Vote Act; (2) the administrative requirements
6 for adopting such a system, including their impact upon poll operations and upon the operation of
7 municipal clerks' offices on election day; (3) the possibility of fraud; (4) the effects upon finalizing a vote
8 and possible recounts; and (5) the effects of other proposed election changes. (b) The task force shall
9 complete its study and submit its final report in writing to the joint committee on election laws no later
10 than September 30, 2009. (c) The task force shall consist of the house and senate chairs of the joint
11 committee on election laws, the speaker of the house of representatives or his designee, the president of
12 the senate or her designee, the house minority leader or his designee, the senate minority leader or his
13 designee, the state secretary or his designee (who shall serve as chair of the task force), the chairs of the
14 house and the senate ways & means committees, the state auditor or his designee, the director of the
15 office on disability or her designee, 2 representatives of the Massachusetts Town Clerks Association, at
16 least 1 of whom shall be a town clerk of a town of fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, 2 representatives of the
17 Massachusetts City Clerks Association, and 1 representative of each of the following groups: the
18 Massachusetts Municipal Association, the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts
19 Chapter of the NAACP, Common Cause, and MassVOTE. SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its
20 passage. , therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate
21 preservation of the public convenience.